

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 9-15 and 17 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fritz, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,702,007) in view of either Gibson (U.S. Patent No. 7,051,909) or Lawler, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,516,020). The Examiner objected to claims 2-8, 16 and 18-22 as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but identified those claims as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Examiner identified claims 23-45 as being allowable. In response, the Applicant has amended claim 1, canceled claims 5 and 9-13 and added new claims 46-51. The Applicant believes the amendments made in response to the Examiner's rejections have placed the application in position for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 - Applicant has amended claim 1 to address the Examiner's rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) by incorporating the limitations of original claim 5, which was objected to by the Examiner, into claim 1. Based on the objection to claim 5, the amended claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claim 5 - Applicant is cancelling claim 5 as being redundant in light of the amendment to claim 1 above.

Claims 9-13 - Applicant is cancelling claims 9-13 as being generally incompatible with the amended claim 1, from which claim 9 depended. Claims 10-13 depended, directly or indirectly, from claim 9.

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Claim 46 - This new independent claim is a combination of the previous claim 1 and a modified original claim 20, which was objected to by the Examiner. As set forth above, the new claim 46 adds the limitation that the holding means is selected from either the cradle configuration or a clamp configuration. The cradle configuration being defined as having a frame with a pair of frame members and one or more wheel support members attached to said frame with the frame being adjustably connected to the connection member so as to adjust the height of the one or more wheel support members above the bed of the vehicle and the wheel support members being configured to substantially cradle the wheel of the motorcycle. The clamp configuration being defined as having a pair of clamp plates and a plate connector interconnecting the pair of clamp plates with the pair of clamp plates being configured to be disposed on opposite sides of the wheel of the motorcycle and the plate connector being configured to clamp the pair of clamp plates against the wheel of the motorcycle. The above amendment is incorporating the limitations of original claims 16 (with the limitations of claim 15 - the intermediate claim) and 18 into original claim 1 with the holding means being selected from the two embodiments. The Examiner objected to claims 16 and 18.

Claims 47-51 - These new claims have the same limitations as the canceled claims 9-13, respectively, renumbered to depend, directly or indirectly, from new claim 46.

In light of the above amendments, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 9-15 and 17 in the subject patent application.

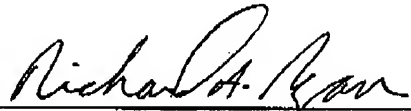
Applicant's original application included fees for three independent claims and a total of forty-five claims. Six claims, including one independent claim, are being added by the

present amendment and six claims are being canceled by the present amendment. As a result, after this amendment there are a total of 45 claims, including four independent claims, pending in this application. A fee of \$110.00 is included herewith for the one additional independent claim.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections in light of this Response/Amendment is requested. Applicant believes that the amended claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 1-4, 6-8 and 14-51 is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully Submitted,

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